

## EXPLANATION OF PLATE I.

Fig. 1.—Nest of *Vespa* sp. Portions of two envelopes cut away, showing the innermost envelope in such position that it must be necessarily torn away to enlarge the nest.  $\times 3$ , natural size.

Fig. 2.—Yellow cocoon of the first parasite *in situ*, in a vespa cell.

Fig. 3.—Yellow cocoon extracted.

Fig. 4.—Longitudinal section of a yellow cocoon. Figs. 2—4 all natural size.

Fig. 5.—*Sphécophagus* (?) *predator*. ♀.  $\times 5$ .

Fig. 6.—The same. ♂.  $\times 5$ .

Figs. 7, 8, 9.—Mandible and palpi of the same from the left side.  $\times 30$ .

Fig. 10.—*Melittobia* sp. ♀.  $\times 25$ .

Fig. 11.—Antenna of the same of the right side.  $\times 75$ .

Fig. 12.—Antennal club and succeeding joint of the same, showing the sensory hairs and lengthened sensory cavities.  $\times 250$ .

Fig. 13.—Dipterous puparium from abdominal cavity and cell of *V. maculata*.  $\times 5$ .

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 NOTE ON PSEPHENUS LECONTEI Lec.

By CHARLES W. LENG.

This beetle, which has been reported from Niagara Falls and other rocky cataracts, lives also in more placid situations and much nearer to us here in New York. I found it abundant on July 1st, 1893, at Echo or Macopin Lake near Newfoundland, a station on the N. Y., Susquehanna & W. R. R. in Sussex Co., N. J. This lake is an oval sheet of water, lying among the mountains and encircled by forest, in which red-berried elder and the flowering raspberry grow, and minks raise their families of young. The edge of the lake is thickly strewn with fairly large boulders and its clear waters admit of watching the animal life that clings to the rocks below the water line. While thus watching I discovered *Psephenus Lecontei*, slowly walking over the submerged boulders and glistening like silver from the air bubbles contained in its silky covering of hair. Sometimes the walk extended above the surface, but whether above or below the beetles were easily alarmed and made off in short flights like *Elaphrus* or *Bembidium*, demonstrating their indifference to air, rock or water.

The numbers in which they occurred were considerable and I captured perhaps a dozen in a half hour.